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FIS920030011US1

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 5 to 14 remain in the present application. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended for which there is support in the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed. Claims 3, 4 and 15 to 20 have been canceled without prejudice.

Reconsideration of the Examiner's decisions and reexamination of this application are respectfully requested. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested as it places the application in condition for allowance.

Claim Objections, §112 rejections:

Claims 4 to 6 have been objected to by the Examiner as being of improper dependent form and rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph.

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the limitation of claim 4 and removing certain language which the Examiner felt was inconsistent with the subject matter of claim 4. Consequently, claim 4 has been canceled. Claim 5 has been amended by incorporating the language of claim 1, except for certain language which the Examiner felt was inconsistent with the subject matter of claim 5, and then rewriting claim 5 as an independent claim. The remainder of the claims are all dependent, directly or indirectly, upon claims 1 or 5.

The Examiner's courtesy in granting an interview with the undersigned on June 8, 2005, is acknowledged. During the interview, the claim objections and 35 USC §112, first paragraph, rejections were discussed. Applicants proposed amending claims 1 and 5 as set forth in this Amendment After Final Rejection. The Examiner indicated that if these amendments were made, the claims would be allowable.

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Accordingly, in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 5 and the interview with the Examiner, all of claims 1, 2 and 5 to 14 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

The §103 rejections:

Claims 1, 3, 7 to 10, 12 and 14 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Costrini et al. U.S. Patent 6,187,680.

Claim 2 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Costrini et al. and further in view of Merchant et al. U.S. Patent 6,410,986.

Claims 11 and 13 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Costrini et al. in view of Besser et al. U.S. Patent 6,239,494.

In view of the amendments to the claims as discussed above, the rejections of claims 1 to 3 and 7 to 14 under 35 USC §103(a) are moot.

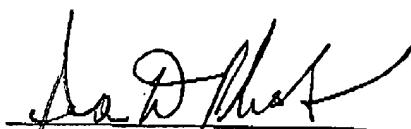
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Summary:

In view of all of the preceding remarks, it is submitted that all of claims 1, 2 and 5 to 14 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner finds this application deficient in any respect, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's earliest convenience to resolve such deficiency.

Respectfully Submitted,
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